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IN THE CLAIMS

Please Amend claims 1-3, 15, 17-19, and 24 as follows:

- 1 1. (Amended) An audit-credit-interactive system, said system comprising:  
2  
3       a microcontroller;  
4  
5       a vending machine interface interconnected with said microcontroller, said  
6       audit-credit-interactive system, by way of said vending machine interface,  
7       interconnects to and data communicates with a vending machine  
8       controller, said vending machine controller is interconnected to and  
9       controls a vending machine; and  
10  
11      an interactive interface interconnected with said microcontroller, said  
12      interactive interface interconnects said audit-credit-interactive system to a  
13      computing platform, said computing platform, by way of said interactive  
14      interface and based in part on data communicated between said audit-  
15      credit-interactive system and said vending machine controller, monitors  
16      said vending machine activity, and selectively controls said vending  
17      machine vending cycles.  
18  
1     2. (Amended) The audit-credit-interactive system in accordance with claim 1, wherein  
2     said vending machine interface is interconnected to at least one of the following: said  
3     vending machine controller multi-drop-bus interface (MDB), or said vending machine  
4     controller data exchange interface (DEX).  
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*Ab65*

1 3. (Amended) The audit-credit-interactive system in accordance with claim 1, wherein  
2 said computing platform is at least one of the following: an online module, a card reader,  
3 a cashless payment device, an audit device, a coin mechanism, a bill validator, a personal  
4 computer, a communication module, or a microprocessor based system.

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*Ab66*

1 15. (Amended) The audit-credit-interactive system in accordance with claim 14, wherein  
2 said plurality of peripheral devices includes at least one of the following: a coin  
3 mechanism, a bill validator, an online module, a communication module, or a card  
4 reader.

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*Ab67*

1 17. (Amended) An audit-credit-interactive system for interconnection with a vending  
2 machine, said vending machine having a vending machine controller, said audit-credit-  
3 interactive system being electrically connected to said vending machine controller  
4 comprising:

5

6 a microcontroller;

7

8 a vending machine interface interconnected with said microcontroller for  
9 data communicating with said vending machine controller; and

10

11 a mimic MDB interface interconnected with said microcontroller for data  
12 communicating with a plurality of peripheral devices, said plurality of  
13 peripheral devices being interconnected with said mimic MDB interface.

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*Ab68*

1 18. (Amended) The audit-credit-interactive system in accordance with claim 17, wherein  
2 said vending machine interface is interconnected to at least one of the following: said  
3 vending machine controller multi-drop-bus interface (MDB), or said vending machine  
4 controller data exchange interface (DEX).

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1 19. (Amended) The audit-credit-interactive system in accordance with claim 17, wherein  
2 a first plurality of data is communicated between said vending machine controller and  
3 said vending machine interface, and a second plurality of data is communicated between  
4 said mimic MDB interface and at least one of said plurality of peripheral devices;

5

6 wherein, said audit-credit-interactive system effectuates data communication between  
7 said vending machine controller and at least one of said plurality of peripheral devices by  
8 way of data processing said first plurality of data and said second plurality of data to  
9 provide a common communication protocol between said vending machine controller and  
10 at least one of said plurality of peripheral devices.

11

1 24. (Amended) The audit-credit-interactive system in accordance with claim 23, wherein  
2 said computing platform is at least one of the following: an online module, a card reader,  
3 a cashless payment device, an audit device, a coin mechanism, a bill validator, a personal  
4 computer, a communication module, or a microprocessor based system.

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